

TERMS---\$2.00 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE.

WHOLE NO., 646.

For the Farmer

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Winter Cure of the Orchard

In the closing up of the season's work and the hurried preparation for winter, many of our farmers entirely overlook the fact that the trees are not yet ready. Many think that after the fruit is gathered nothing further is necessary, or can be done until spring. In this climate winter is the best trying portion of the year for the orchard, and the trees must be prepared for the coming season, but the life of the tree depends on proper winter care and protection. Our trees are comparatively young, rapid growth, and in many cases, early bearing. The varieties are very many, and the varieties are at the best very unduly, and those that are, in constitution habits of growth, best adapted to our climate, are often, through peculiarities of growth, very susceptible to winter injury. The necessary vigor to grow, wanting to be able to stand the winter, is often unharmed through the extremes and changes to which they may be exposed. When wood has been thoroughly ripened, many of the varieties will endure frost and extreme cold, but when the growth is not mature, or the varieties are not hardy, even a moderate degree of cold often proves injurious. But the greater danger to our orchards are the exposures to frost, from sudden changes of temperature, from sudden changes of weather. Let the mild and pleasant weather which we often have in mid-winter be followed suddenly by severe cold, and serious injury is generally the result. When circulation of the sap is checked, and the process it has commenced in the cell tissue, a sudden change, even to a degree of cold which would be harmless under other conditions, is sufficient to destroy the vitality of the tree.

We cannot regulate the changes in weather, neither is it possible after the season is closed, to change the hardiness or the maturity of its growth; but by severe frosts, and by the rays of the sun, we can help to preserve the trees in a dormant state, and thus avoid the danger

against frost injury. To shade the body of the tree, straw is spread at the base and driven into the ground around the tree to the south or south-west side. Where the tree is large, two boards nailed together along the edge and lashed up against the tree trunk may be used. For a much taller oak, hay or straw busses for the sorghum mill, or what is better yet, coarse manure. This much will help to retain the snow and thus give additional protection. Care should be taken not to place the straw near the body of the tree, as it will serve as a harbor for mice. Where the orchard is small, a large amount of labor and material will be required.

"The only time," said the surgeon, "the

these, least should be protected. Again, all young trees should be secured against the driving forces of the wind by being fastened to staves, and by a system of guy-ropes attached to the base. A foot of snow thrown up against the tree, smoothed off and packed down, is a sure protection from the depredations of mice, and also serves as protection against the severities of the season.

In localities where rabbits abound, care must be taken to guard against their destructive propensities. The easiest, and, in fact, the most effective way of doing this, is occasionally to smear the part of the trunk which is most exposed to their reach with blood. We have used "varmints" themselves with good results for this purpose: when killed, cutting the open and smearing the trunks with the blood and offals.—*Western Farmer.*

HOW TO MEASURE CORN IS THE CORN.—In leveling the corn, multiply the length and breadth of the house together, and the product by the depth, which will give you the cubic feet of the bulk of corn; then divide the cubic product by 12, and the quotient will be the number of bushels of shelled corn in the house or crib. If there be a remainder after the division, it will be so many twelfths of a barrel of shelled corn over.

Example: 12 ft. long multiplied by 10 ft. wide, gives 120 ft. deep, gives 720 cubic feet, which divided by 12, gives 60 bushels of shelled corn; or, 5 bushels to the barrel, make 330 bushels of shelled corn in the crib.

If farmers will cut the above measure into small and handy pieces, they will find it convenient for reference, but will not find it ascertaining the number of bushels of corn in their wagon-beds without trisecting the calculation to others.

DON'T TRY TO WINTER TOO MUCH CORN.—Let every farmer now prepare either to get rid of his surplus stock or to winter it. To keep it all through the winter is no small feat, and one who has to do it, and who habitually undertake to get through the winter with more stock than they properly feed till grass grows again.

If you have ten, fifteen, twenty or thirty head of stock, you may have some position certain that you have enough feed to sustain, &c., to keep them all in good order till spring, dispose of them before the weather sets in. Make arrangements so that you will not be caught with bareheaded riders in the winter months of the months of February and March.

TO PRESERVE POTATOES FROM ROT.—The correspondent of the *Scientific American* says that he has tried the following method of keeping potatoes for years with complete success, though in some instances the potatoes were diseased when taken out of the ground, and the disease was traced with lime and put in about a quart of lime ches deep of potatoes, and dust with lime as before. Put in six or seven inches of potatoes and lime again; repeat the operation again, and store away. One bushel of lime will do the work of three, and though more will not hurt them, the less is rather improving the flavor than otherwise.

If you have a yield of excess, don't be ashamed of them and give your notes to a span of horees.